Criteria for selection of sports persons

1777. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria adopted for the selection of sports persons for various sports events on the National and International level; and

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure fair selection of sports persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS): (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) The main criteria for selection of sports persons for various sports events at the national and international level is the present performance of the sports persons and the standards of competing nations. For important international events such as Asian/Commonwealth and Olympic games specific qualifying standards are laid.

(b) Government has been emphasising upon the Federations to have fair and transparent procedures for selection. A Selection Committee consisting of the President of the Federation, IOA representative, Government nominee, nominee of Sports Authority of India and the National Coach select the teams/ sports persons. Before approving the participation in international sports events abroad, Government insists on scrutinising the minutes of the Selection Committee.

Scheme for girl child

1778. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a new scheme for the girl child for her higher studies, starting economic ventures or for her marriage in the country particularly in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. BASAVARAJESHWARI): (a) to (c) The Government of India has not formulated any such new scheme. However, the State Governments of Haryana and Tamil Nadu have launched scheme for the Girl Child. The details are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). As regards Punjab no such scheme has been launched.

Statement

HARYANA

The Scheme 'Apni Beti' 'Apna Dhan' launched by Haryana Government provides for an investment of about Rs. 3,000/- per child as an instrument of small savings at the time to birth of a female child in all families below the poverty line and SC families (except income tax payees and families where either parent is a Class I or Class-II Officer). It has also been provided that the benefit of the Scheme will be available to families having their first or second or third child. The amount invested will comprise of Rs. 2,500/- in small savings instrument which will mature after 18 years and Rs. 500/- in cash to be paid to the mother on birth of a girl child for her nutrition and medical expenses.

TAMIL NADU

The State Government of Tamil Nadu has launched a specific scheme called the Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Jayalalitha Scheme for the girl children as a specific measure to prevent female infanticide. The scheme envisages to help girl children of poor families and simultaneously convince the people to adopt the small family norm. The eligibility criteria for the scheme are as follows:—

(1) One of the parents should have undergone sterilisation on or after 01.04.1992;

(2) The parent undergoing sterilisation should be below 40 years of age.

(3) The parents should have only one or two female children and no son;

(4) The beneficiary girl child should not be more than 3 years;

(5) The annual family income should not be more than Rs. 12,000/-

2. The benefits given under the scheme are:

(i) The initial deposit shall be Rs. 5,000/-;

(ii) The final benefit will be Rs. 20,000/-;

(iii) At first birthday or next birth day after enrolment, a gold ring of 2 gms. weight worth about Rs. 800/- will be given;

(iv) The deposit amount will be entered into a passbook given on enrolment. A token system to establish identify for Claiming the stream of benefits will be introduced.

Quality of education in Schools

1779. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that literacy rate in the country is among the lowest in the world;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government investment in primary and secondary education in particular, has been the lowest even among several developing nations of Asia;

(c) the comparative year-wise details of allocation and outlay made in primary and secondary education since 1989-90;

(d) whether Government are aware that number of schools and colleges which have been proliferating, particularly in the cities are basically commercial ventures considered to be teaching shops engaged in imparting low quality education;

(e) whether Government have any mechanism to monitor the quality of school education provided by the schools in the States;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, whether it is contemplated to introduce such a mechnism with a view to make available quality education in school to the children and its wiser coverage of the country's young population?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA): (a) India's literacy rate is low compared to many countries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The details are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 173 Annexure 73]

(d) to (g) All over the country recognised schools are affiliated either to a State Government/Board, or to the Central Board of Secondary Education or to the Indian Council of School Education. Colleges are affiliated to universities/ deemed universities. The criteria for recognition lay down specifications in respect of facilities, teacher qualifications and fees. Fulfilment of quality is considered by the affiliating bodies. Further, all technical institutions in the country require to conform to norms laid down by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), a statutory body created by the Parliament. In order to foster quality in technical and higher education, recently, the AICTE has set up a National Accreditation Council for Technical Education and the UGC has set up a similar body for higher education.